

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 IO-13 /080 W

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R 241756Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2122

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 16218

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, GW, VN

SUBJECT: FRG RELATIONS WITH VIET-NAM

REFS: (A) BONN 2102; (B) BONN 10502

BEGIN SUMMARY: VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATS HAVE ARRIVED TO ESTABLISH EMBASSY IN BONN. HOWEVER, SUBSTANTIVE TALKS HERE AND IN HANOI HAVE NOT BEGUN. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FONOFF (STEGER) HAS CONFIRMED THAT A GROUP OF THREE VIETNAMESE HEADED BY A CHARGE ARRIVED IN BONN FOUR WEEKS AGO TO ESTABLISH A VIETNAMESE EMBASSY. THE FRG  
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EXPECTS AN AMBASSADOR TO BE NAMED SOON, BUT DOES NOT

KNOW WHO IT WILL BE. SINCE THE FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE EMBASSY WAS NOT OWNED BY VIET-NAM, THERE IS NO PROPERTY FOR THE VIETNAMESE TO TAKE OVER FOR THEIR EMBASSY. THEY ARE, THEREFORE, LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT FOR A CHANCERY AND A HOUSE TO SERVE AS A RESIDENCE. THE FRG HAS PLACED NO RESTRICTIONS ON THEIR ATTEMPT TO FIND AN EMBASSY. THE FRG DOES NOT WISH TO USE LEVERAGE TO GET BETTER FACILITIES IN HANOI BECAUSE IT BELIEVES THE VIETNAMESE WOULD PROVIDE BETTER FACILITIES IF IT WERE POSSIBLE.

2. IT IS PERHAPS SIGNIFICANT THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAVE AGREED TO PAY THE FEW BILLS LEFT BY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE EMBASSY OUT OF BANK ACCOUNTS WHICH THE FRG HAD BLOCKED.

3. ACCORDING TO STEGER THE FRG AMBASSADOR IN HANOI HAS BEEN ACCORDED EXCELLENT ACCESS TO VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS INCLUDING PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG. HE HAS BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO TRAVEL TO SAIGON TO REVIEW GERMAN PROPERTIES THERE. HOWEVER, HE HAS NOT HELD ANY SUBSTANTIVE TALKS WITH THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. HE HAS DEVOTED THE BULK OF HIS EFFORTS TO ESTABLISHING HIS EMBASSY UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS.

4. STEGER ALSO CLAIMS THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAVE NOT RAISED THE QUESTION OF CAPITAL AID COMMITMENTS PREVIOUSLY EXTENDED TO BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH VIET-NAM. THE FONOFF IS NOT IN A HURRY TO RESOLVE THIS QUESTION. STEGER WANTS TO USE THIS AID AS PART OF A PACKAGE WHICH WOULD RESOLVE OUTSTANDING DEBTS OF THE FORMER GOVERNMENT, BOTH COMMERCIAL AND OFFICIAL.(SEE SEPTEL)

5. STEGER CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE VIETNAMESE ARE ACCORDING HIGHEST PRIORITY TO DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. THEY ARE STILL DESIROUS OF EXPANDING THE WESTERN PRESENCE IN HANOI TO HELP CORRECT AN OVER DEPENDENCY ON THE SOVIET UNION.  
HILLENBRAND

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